

REFERENCE TITLE: pediatric early childhood literacy

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2007

## **HB 2704**

Introduced by  
Representatives Campbell CH, Hershberger, Kirkpatrick, Lopes, Lujan,  
Thrasher, Senator McCune Davis; Representatives Crandall, DeSimone, Lopez,  
Meza

### AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE PEDIATRIC EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY PILOT PROGRAM; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2       Section 1. Pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program

3       A. A three year pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program is  
4 established in the state board of education through the division of early  
5 childhood education programs to support the involvement of pediatric  
6 providers in local communities in this state in efforts to promote healthy  
7 cognitive and language development of at-risk and economically disadvantaged  
8 young children in clinical settings through implementation of research-based,  
9 proven early childhood literacy programs.

10      B. The state board of education through the division of early  
11 childhood education programs shall adopt procedures necessary to implement  
12 the pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program.

13      C. The pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program shall serve  
14 children who are at least six months but no more than five years of age and  
15 whose families have limited resources and opportunities to create a home  
16 environment that stimulates early literacy skills and that fosters an early  
17 love of books.

18      D. The pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program shall promote  
19 pediatric literacy by:

20       1. Encouraging parents to read aloud to their young children and  
21 offering age-appropriate tips and encouragement at every well-child medical  
22 appointment.

23       2. Providing every child who is at least six months and not more than  
24 five years of age a new, developmentally appropriate children's book to keep  
25 at every well-child medical appointment.

26       3. Offering a literacy rich waiting room environment, including  
27 volunteer readers, where parents and children learn about the pleasures and  
28 techniques of looking at books together.

29       4. Promoting early literacy during well-child medical appointments in  
30 the health care setting and encouraging new health care settings to implement  
31 early childhood literacy programs.

32       5. Training new pediatric providers in early childhood literacy and  
33 retraining to keep pediatric providers proficient in strategies to promote  
34 early childhood literacy to all children in this state.

35      E. Eligible pediatric early childhood literacy programs shall  
36 demonstrate the following:

37       1. Effectiveness through published research studies and findings.

38       2. Capacity to expand the program to additional at-risk children in  
39 low performing school districts, hard to reach rural communities and other  
40 areas of high need throughout this state.

41       3. Capacity to collaborate with key stakeholders in the early  
42 education and care fields, including health care professionals.

43      F. The state board of education shall distribute a grant in the amount  
44 of five hundred thousand dollars during each fiscal year of the pilot program  
45 to organizations that support pediatric childhood literacy programs in health

1 care settings and that are delivered by pediatric providers in the following  
2 areas:

3       1. The promotion of early literacy during well-child medical  
4 appointments.

5       2. The purchase of new, developmentally appropriate books to be  
6 distributed at well-child medical appointments.

7       3. The training of new pediatric providers in pediatric early  
8 childhood literacy and retraining of existing providers who are proficient in  
9 strategies to promote early literacy to all children in this state.

10      4. The transformation of clinic waiting rooms into literacy rich  
11 environments and the implementation of volunteer readers in clinic waiting  
12 rooms.

13      Sec. 2. Appropriations; distribution of grants under the  
14                   pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program;  
15                   exemption

16      A. The sum of \$500,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in  
17 fiscal year 2007-2008 to the state board of education for the distribution of  
18 a grant under the pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program  
19 established by this act.

20      B. The sum of \$500,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in  
21 fiscal year 2008-2009 to the state board of education for the distribution of  
22 a grant under the pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program  
23 established by this act.

24      C. The sum of \$500,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in  
25 fiscal year 2009-2010 to the state board of education for the distribution of  
26 a grant under the pediatric early childhood literacy pilot program  
27 established by this act.

28      D. The appropriations made in subsections A, B and C of this section  
29 are exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
30 relating to lapsing of appropriations.

31      Sec. 3. Delayed repeal

32      This act is repealed from and after September 30, 2010.